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ORGANIZATION OF THE CPSU

1. General. The extraordinary complexity of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) arises from these facts:

- a. It controls every organ, plant, office, institution, and functionary in the very complicated bureaucratic structure of the USSR;
- b. Control is exercised directly (office-to-office) and indirectly (special personnel, special organs, functional supervision);
- c. Control takes several forms: general policy instructions; specific working instruction; checking-up on fulfillment of instructions; personnel management; investigation and reporting on efficiency of personnel and the workability of instructions, reliability of personnel, local conditions affecting work.
- d. Each form of control is exercised through multiple channels in accordance with a liking for "double and even triple, insurance."

2. The Party is organized geographically, the system of geographical breakdown for Soviet civil administration being followed by the Party. On each echelon there is a Party headquarters, responsible to the next higher headquarters and in charge of lower headquarters within the geographic division. The headquarters consists of (a) a Party Committee, of which (b) a small part is designated the Bureau; (c) an administrative-executive Apparatus, consisting of several departments. The Committees are theoretically policy-making organs, but policy-making has long been actually in the hands of the highest Bureau of the Party, the Politburo. Since the Revolution of 1917, the chains of executive departments of the Apparatus have become the real instruments of Party power through which the Politburo realizes its policies and controls the complex State-Party organization.

3. It is virtually impossible to show in chart form the myriad channels and components of the Party machine. The chart that is included shows only the main lines and has, in the top echelons of the Apparatus, only a suggestion of the complexity that actually exists.

4. Congresses and Conferences. The organs of the CPSU are, only in theory, responsible to general meetings of Party members and their elected delegates. The "leading organs" (Party Committees) at each level is "elected" by the Congress or Conference at that level. In practice, however, these meetings are only "rubber-stamps" for decisions and appointments that

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have been made by the hierarchy of Party organs themselves. Their power is so small that they are not discussed further in the following survey.

5. Central Committee. The Central Committee, with 71 full members and 6¹ alternate members elected by the All-Union Congress of the CPSU, is theoretically the leading organ of the Party.¹ It was deliberately made too large to function efficiently in Plenum and is now even less important than Lenin said it should be in 1923: "a higher Party Conference," meeting only occasionally. The CC elects the Politburo, the Orgburo, the Responsible Secretaries (the Secretariat) and, since 1939, the Commission of Party Control.

6. Politburo. The Politburo (Political Bureau) was formally established as a part of the Central Committee in March 1919. It has been kept small in size and its membership has been fairly stable since the early 1930's. Its 11 members and 1 alternate member not only determine Party, and thereby, State policy, but also run the executive apparatus of the Party and State. The Politburo is also probably directly responsible for Soviet foreign affairs (there appears to be no section of the Party Apparatus responsible specifically for foreign affairs, unlike the other spheres of Soviet state interest, which are represented by particular sections of the Party Apparatus).

7. Orgburo. The Orgburo (Organizational Bureau) was also formally constituted in March 1919. It too, has remained small (currently, 12 members), and is theoretically on a par with the Politburo. Because important organizational problems are dictated by political considerations, the Politburo has usurped much of the Orgburo's authority. Furthermore, although the Orgburo is responsible for general organizational matters, the day-to-day execution of organizational decisions by offices of the Apparatus has probably further detracted from the importance of the Orgburo. The real position of the Orgburo cannot be firmly established, however, simply because very little is known about it.

8. Commission of Party Control. The development of the Commission of Party Control is interesting as an example of the growth of an internal Party investigative-control mechanism.

As originally envisaged in September 1920, a control commission was to be set up, on a level with the Central Committee, and empowered to look into any kind of complaint and deal with cases of violation of discipline and misuse of Party or state positions; its main purpose was to prevent and put down factionalism. Control commissions were also to be set up at Oblast and Gubernatski levels by Party congresses and conferences and to be responsible to these, not to the Party Committees, nor to the next higher Control Commission.

¹ Sidney and Beatrice Webb (Soviet Communism: A New Civilization? N.Y., 1936) mention the existence of a CC "presidium of four members and four alternates," but research by other scholars fails to confirm this.

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In March 1922 the Central Control Commission was put in charge of lower control commissions. The following year, the CCC was expanded to 50 members and 10 alternates, with interlocking membership with the Workers' and Peasants' Inspection (RKI), the state control organ. Its powers increased: it was empowered to investigate the Central Committee; it designated three permanent representatives to attend meetings of the Politburo and Orgburo and to have access to all their records. Stalin, who headed the RKI, got control of the CCC and used it to purge the opposition (Zinoviev, Trotsky, etc.). By 1927, the CCC had 195 members.

In 1934, the Party having achieved its present "monolithic" character under Stalin, the formal control machinery was reorganized. The function of verification of Governmental decisions was turned over to a Commission of Soviet Control, along with the apparatus of the former RKI. The Party organ was cut down to 61 members and renamed the Commission of Party Control. Elected by the Party Congress, it consisted of a headquarters (Secretariat of the Bureau, and Groups for Heavy Industry, Light Industry, Forest and Paper Industry, Transport, and other "production" fields), and Representatives (Upolnomochenny) who were sent out to check up on the fulfillment of Party decisions by lower Party, state, and economic organs down to the oblast level. The representatives were appointed by the central headquarters of the Commission of Party Control and were independent of lower Party committees. Control Commissions were no longer set up on the lower levels, but local Party Kollegiyas were organized in oblasts, krais, and republics to deal with violations of discipline, and they were subordinate to the Representatives of the Commission of Party Control.

In 1939 the election of members of the Commission of Party Control was taken away from the Party Congress and given to the Plenum of the Central Committee. Its membership was reduced to 31, some of the members being designated to work with local Party organizations; some, to work at CPC headquarters but to be sent out on special verification assignments; and some, to work permanently in the headquarters with a Bureau consisting of a Chairman and four Deputies. Review of disciplinary and morality cases rested with a Partkollegiya of the CPC, but on the lower levels, the Kollegiyas were abolished, and disciplinary cases were now decided and reviewed by the Bureaus of the republic, oblast, and krai committees. Appeal from decisions of the latter organs was made to the Partkollegiya of the CPC. Again, CPC Representatives (plenipotentiaries) were assigned verification and checking missions with lower Party organs. The CPC also designated "Responsible Controllers" to supervise various People's Commissariats.

The present competence of the Commission of Party Control is not clear. Its functions seem to overlap those of the new Department of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs (as well as those of the Special Sectors), and there have been indications of the revival in some places at least of the lower kollegeriyas. One such kollegeriya reportedly consists of a Secretary and two members, none of them members of the leading organs of the Union Republic CP, at which level it was reported.

9. Central Auditing (Revision) Commission. It is elected by the All-Union Party Congress, but has very limited authority for "the expeditious turnover of correspondence and the auditing of Party funds." It had 50 members in 1939.

Auditing Commissions are elected by lower Party Congresses and conferences and attached to corresponding lower Party organs.

10. Secretariat. Beginning as an administrative staff, the Secretariat has become an executive organ of the Party and has under it what is now the administrative staff (the Apparatus). The Secretariat consists of --

Stalin: Secretary General

G. M. Malenkov

V. A. Suslov

P. K. Ponomarev

M. S. Krushchev

The Secretaries supervise the departments of the Apparatus. At lower Party levels, Deputy and Assistant Secretaries serve as heads of departments of the Apparatus, and it is possible that there are comparable functionaries at All-Union level.

11. The Apparatus. The administrative staff of the CPSU, known as the Apparatus of the Secretariat or of the Central Committee, grew from about 20 members in 1919 to about 600 by early 1923. No figures are available on its current size, but it must number in the thousands, not all of them Party members. Although it was at first planned to draw the chiefs of the departments of the Apparatus from the membership of the Central Committee, this principle has been allowed to lapse. Aside from the five members of the Secretariat, only four department (Otdel) heads have been identified as CC members. Two additional CC members are on the editorial board of Party publications.

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12. Structure of the Apparatus as of July 1950.

SECRETARIAT

OTDEL OF PARTY, TRADE UNION AND Komsomol Organs

- Institute of Inspectors
- Sector of Party Information
- Sector of Party Personnel Records and Statistics
- Sector of Party Cards
- Sector of Party Organs
- Sector of Trade Union Organs (?)
- Sector of Komsomol Organs (?)

OTDEL OF PROPAGANDA AND AGITATION

- Sector of Party Propaganda
- Sector of Mass Agitation
- Schools Sector
- Art Sector
- Publishers Sector
- Local Paper Sector
- Science Sector
- Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute
- Academy of Social Sciences
- Higher Party School
- Kultura i Zhizn
- Lecture Group
- Fictions Literature Sector
- Oblast, Krai, and Republic Papers Sector
- Cultural Enlightenment Institutions Sector
- Sector of Pedagogical Scientific Research Institutions

HEAVY INDUSTRY OTDEL.

LIGHT INDUSTRY OTDEL.

AGRICULTURE OTDEL.

TRANSPORT OTDEL.

PLANNING-FINANCE-TRADE UNION OTDEL

ADMINISTRATION OTDEL.

SPECIAL SECTOR

ADMINISTRATION OF AFFAIRS (FOREIGN OTDEL?)

13. The present organization of the Apparatus represents a revival of the "production type" of otдел over the "functional" system. Throughout the history of the CPSU there has been a wavering between the two methods. When a particular section of the economy or Government needs bolstering, as in 1934-1939, and from 1941 to date, the Party tends to set up "production" departments for policy direction, checking up on fulfillments, cadre placement, political work, etc., under central control in the particular industry. At other times, the production departments are all or partly replaced by "functional" departments which handle a given function for several industries and segments of state work.

14. "Production" Otodels. The functions of the Production Otodels are--

- a. Morale work: issuing production propaganda designed to raise productivity in the given industry;
- b. Supervision and specialized direction to Party and trade union organizations in the industry; personnel selection, training, assignment, reporting;
- c. Study of production reports made by plants in the industry;
- d. Receive and investigate reports of improper conduct or complaints sent in by workers, trade union and Party organizations; forwarding of reports of such investigation to proper authorities for action.

The following production otodels have been identified:

Heavy Industry Otodel

Light Industry Otodel

Agricultural Otodel

Transport Otodel

Planning, Finance and Trade Otodel: responsible for various state administrative bodies, including civilian and Red Army soviets.

(Identified at Union Republic level and probably existing at All-Union level, also.)

Machine Construction Otodel (identified at Union Republic level).

15. Functional Departments. The most important of the functional otodels have always been those concerned with Party organization and cadres and with agitation-propaganda.

16. The organizational and cadres supervisory functions have been performed in organizationally varied ways since 1919. At times, a single department has handled all organizational and personnel matters; at other times, responsibility has been shared with the production otodels; during some periods various aspects of this work has been broken down among a number of different departments. Since 1943, the function has been the responsibility of the Otodel of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs, with the production otodels playing some part in the matter.

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17. ~~Central Party and Regional Komsomol Organs~~. Established in 1948. Details are not known on its formal competence, and its composition is known in part from identified components at lower Party levels, presumably reflecting comparable make-up at All-Union level.

The Otdel is believed to have the following components:

- Inspection Groups
- Sector of Personnel Records
- Sector of Information
- Section of Party Statistics and Party Cards
- (Sector for Trade Union Organs; Sector of Komsomol Organs; Sector for Party Organs: these sectors have not been firmly identified and are simply presumed to exist)

It is believed that the Otdel has taken over functions previously handled by the Administration for Checking Party Organs (which replaced an Organization-Instruction Otdel in 1946). It is also believed that central personnel functions formerly performed by the Cadres Administration¹ have been divided between the Otdel of Party, Trade Union, and Komsomol Organs and the various individual "production" otdels.

From the presumed composition of the Otdel at All-Union level, and the presumption that it has absorbed duties previously handled by no longer extant offices of the apparatus, the following functions have been deduced for the Otdel:

- (1) It is directly in charge of the work of the Trade Unions and Komsomol. This is a departure from previous practice, which achieved control over these organizations by setting up special commissions or by strategic placement of Party functionaries within them.
- (2) It is responsible for personnel management and organizational work of the Party apparatus. This involves:
 - (a) receiving, filing, study of records and reports made by lower Party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations;
 - (b) preparing instructions for improvement of the work of the above organizations;
 - (c) investigating work and deficiencies;
 - (d) checking up on fulfillment of instructions and resolutions of Party headquarters;
 - (e) study of personnel requirements and resources;
 - (f) selection, assignment, promotion, training of key personnel.

¹ It is probable that the Cadres Administration was liquidated. No explicit statement to this effect has as yet been made, however.

Using as a basis the known functions and duties of predecessor offices of the Apparatus with comparable general responsibility or similar titles, the following duties have been deduced for the Sectors of the Otdel of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs.

Sector of Information

- (1) receives and examines minutes of meetings and other materials from lower Party, trade union, and Komsomol organs;¹
- (2) informs local organs of Party decisions through publication in newspapers or by closed letters.²

Sector of Party Statistics and Party Cards

- (1) "Conducts statistical studies of the staff of the Party and its activities."³
 - "(a) statistically compiling materials coming in from the localities, correspondence, elections and episodic investigations;
 - (b) conducting, on the basis of statistical materials, surveys of the staff of the separate Party organizations;
 - (c) corresponding with the statistical apparatuses of the separate partkoms on questions of the shortcomings of statistical materials; their incompleteness, unnotting of figures, etc.;
 - (d) controlling the timely receipt from the localities of statistical materials;
 - (e) establishing a constant bond with the statistical apparatus of the state establishments and trade union organizations, with the aim of using the necessary statistical data for throwing light on this or that question of the staff of the Party and Party construction;
 - (f) preparing statistical materials for the press;
 - (g) distributing statistical information and passes, upon request of the Secretariat, to individual members of the CC and its otdels."
- (2) "Directs the registration and statistical work of the local Party organs."
 - "(a) working out of measures for organization of local Party statistics;
 - (b) directing the work of local Party organs in registration of Communists, cells and Party work;

¹ A function of the Information Otdel of 1924-1950. A Protocol (Minutes) Unit was identified at Union R. public level in 1949 and may be a part of the Sector of Information.

² A function of the Information Otdel of 1924-1930

³ Regulation of the Statistical Otdel CC/CPSU

- (c) instructing the localities on organization and methods of conducting statistical work;
 - (d) working out drafts of statistical formulae, instructions and form letters on registration and statistical work;
 - (e) investigating the condition and work of statistical apparatuses of the local Party organs;
 - (f) preparing and participating in conferences on questions of registration and Party statistics;
 - (g) organizing and conducting Party correspondence, elections and episodic investigations."
- (3) "The Chancellery of the Otdel manages reception of statistical materials and correspondence received from the localities, distributes them, fulfills the correspondence of the Otdel, keeps materials and correspondence (archives), and keeps an account of the fulfillment of the plan of work of the Otdel."¹
- (4) "Distributes and accounts for Party cards."²

Sector of Personnel Records

The completeness of personnel files kept by this sector of the Otdel of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs depends largely on the degree to which the Otdel is actually responsible for personnel management. The Registration Podotdel of the Organization-Assignment Otdel (Organizatsionno-Prisvoennoye) of 1924-1930 had among other duties the following:

- (1) to list responsible workers according to posts for which select cadres were necessary and to accumulate materials on them;
- (2) to compile statistical summaries on the composition of the responsible workers, to be broken down by the branch of work, social position and Party history;
- (3) to draw up preliminary lists of reserves of responsible workers in all branches of work;
- (4) to keep personnel records of responsible workers.

¹ Regulation of the Statistical Otdel CC VKP(b), 1926. There is probably an administrative office in the Otdel of Party, Trade Union, and Komsomol Organs which performs similar duties today.

² One of the functions of the Registration Podotdel of the Organization-Assignment Otdel of 1924-30. The Registration Podotdel had 3 units: Registration of Responsible Workers; Archives; Registration and Distribution of Party Cards.

Inspection Groups

An inspectorate has been a constant feature of whatever office of the Apparatus has been at a given time responsible for supervision of Party organizational work. Its functions are to investigate lower organs for efficiency of work, for fulfillment of Party resolutions and decisions; to make on-the-spot criticisms and give instructions for improvement; and to report to higher headquarters the needs of particular lower organs and results of investigations. At most times, this function has been performed by posting "Instructors" of the CC to lower Party committees. They are not subject to the authority of the lower committees. In the past they have at times been specifically included in the staffs of lower Party organizations. The USSR has been broken down territorially in various ways, with an Instructor assigned to each territory.

The competence of the current Inspection Groups of the Otdel of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs is not clear. It is known that detailed studies have recently been made by them in government, industry, and agriculture.

It is likely that the territorial-assignment system prevails. The Inspection Groups set up by the Bureau of the CC/Belorussia consist of an inspector and two to three instructors, assigned to "definite oblasts."

The work of the Instructors under the 1924-1930 Organization-Assignment Otdel will serve to illustrate what are probably the current functions of the Inspection Groups of the Otdel of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs:

An Instructor was assigned to a definite region. He was sent on his mission by the Otdel, to which he made his report when the mission had been completed. The report was studied by the Otdel; representatives of other otdels were called into discussion when necessary. Action proposals based upon study of the report were made by the Orgbureau.

The Responsible Instructors¹ had wide powers. They could investigate the work of other otdels of the CC. They were authorized to attend any meeting of the Orgbureau of plenum of the CC, and to participate in All-Union Congresses and conferences. They had access to all documents, including secret materials, and could attend all meetings of lower organizations.

<u>Sector of Trade Union Organs</u>	:	It is simply presumed that some such sectors exist under the Otdel. Nothing is known about them.
<u>Sector of Komsomol Organs</u>)	

¹ Two types of Instructors operated at this time, both in conjunction with the Organization-Assignment Otdel: Responsible Instructors of the CC, who carried out their missions to lower organs as direct representatives of the CC, but who nevertheless were given their assignments by the Otdel and reported to the Chief of the Otdel; and Instructors of the Otdel itself. It is not clear how the missions of the latter differed from those of the Responsible Instructors of the CC.

18. The Personnel Management Problem.

In the past, personnel management (cadres work) has been handled in one of three ways --

- a. By personnel management sections set up under a general organization-control department (usually called the Organization-Instruction Otdel).
- b. By a central office primarily responsible for personnel in all fields--Party, government, economic (e.g., the Cadres Administration of 1939-1943).
- c. By personnel sections of individual "production" departments.

The responsibility for personnel management under the present system has not been firmly placed. It is not known how much rests with the "production" departments, nor how much is handled by the Otdel of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs. On the one hand, commenting on the reorganization of 1943, in which the centralized Cadres Administration is believed to have been liquidated, Moskovski Bolshhevik of 2 February 1949 declared:

If previously the question of the selection, assignment and education of cadres was studied solely by the cadres sections, then now the entire Apparatus...studies this question.

On the other hand, in Belorussia, the Otdel of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs was set up so that it could "correctly organize the study, promotion and training of personnel," in addition to its duties of inspection, organization, and verification.

The existence of the Sectors of Personnel Records, Statistics and Party Cards, and of Information would appear to indicate that the Otdel has at least a supporting function in the task of personnel management. It may be that over-all supervision and support services are performed by the Otdel, that it supervises cadres work in general, but that the "production" otdels carry out the actual work of selecting, assigning, and re-assigning personnel within their particular fields.

In any case, the Otdel of Party, etc. Organs is probably responsible for management of key personnel, not only in the Party, but also in the Trade Unions and Komsomol. Consequently, even if the "production" otdels are responsible for personnel management in their own fields, the Otdel of Party, Trade Union and Komsomol Organs plays a very important indirect role.

19. Otdel of Propaganda and Agitation

An agitprop office has been a constant feature of the Apparatus since 1920. For reasons not clear, the agitprop was downgraded in 1943 from an Administration (Upravleniye) to a Department (Otdel). There has been no

indication that agitprop functions were turned over in 1948 to the "production" otdele as was the case when the "production" otdel system was previously tried (1934-35).

The Otdel has the following components:

- Sector of Party Propaganda
- Lecture Group
- Sector of Mass Agitation
- Cultural Enlightenment Institutions Sector
- Central Papers Sector
- Oblast, Krai and Republic Papers Sector
- Local Papers Sector
- Publishers Sector
- Arts Sector
- Fictional Literature Sector
- Film Sector
- Radio Sector
- Science Sector
- School Sector
- Sector of Pedagogical Scientific Research Institutions
- Higher Party School
- Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute
- Academy of Social Sciences

Responsibilities of the Sectors, adduced from those of earlier offices of the Apparatus, are probably as follows:

Sector of Party Propaganda

"organizes, unites and directs all propaganda work with the...Party by means of systematic instruction of the local committees...."¹

Lecture Group

Sector of Mass Agitation

"The staging of mass agitation, organization and guidance over all mass campaigns both of short duration and of extended periods (campaigns of elections,--soviet, trade unions, etc., socialist-competition, shock brigades, collective agreement campaigns, cutting of costs, the raising of the productivity of labor, collectivization, sowing campaigns, grain harvesting, etc.), watching over the activities of various volunteer societies, the selection and assignment of suitable cadres."

¹ Duties of the Otdel of Agitation and Mass Campaigns, 1930.

Cultural Enlightenment Institutions Sector

"...control of the cultural work of the trade unions (libraries, clubs, physical culture and others); cultural enlightenment work in the village (reading rooms, kolkhos, clubs, libraries; the cinema organizational work; radio broadcasting; theaters; organizations of writers, artists, architects, etc."¹

Central Papers Sector)

Oblast, Krai and Republic Papers Sector : These Sectors supervise various Party publications.

Local Papers Sector)

Kultura i Zhizn'²

Arts Sector, Fictional Literature Sector, Film Sector, Radio Sector:

These are all self-explanatory.

Publishers Sector: supervises the publishing industry. The Party's printing work appears to be handled by the State Publishing House for Political Literature (Gospolizdat).

Science Sector

"...control of work of scientific institutions, aid to inventors and watching over their work; leadership of appropriate organizations and scientific societies."³

Sector of Pedagogical Scientific Research Institutions

Schools Sector

Controls public schools--texts, curricula; "training and assignment of cadres."⁴

¹ Duties of the Otdel of Cultural Educational Work of the Agitprop Administration, 1935. Note that there are now separate Sectors for Art, Films, etc.

² Other publications, nominally under the Central Committee, but probably supervised by the Otdel (the Central Papers Sector?) are: Sputnik Agitatora, Bolshevik, Pravda and its affiliates, Ogonek, and Krokodil.

³ Duties of the Otdel of Science, Scientific-Technical Inventions and Discoveries of the Agitprop Administration, 1935.

⁴ Function of the Schools Otdel of the Agitprop Administration, 1935.

Higher Party School

Offers 3-year courses for training of Party and Soviet workers on Republic, Oblast, and Krai levels. Offers review courses of 9-10 months' duration for Party and Soviet workers on Oblast and Raion levels.

Academy of Social Sciences

Founded 1946. Trains workers for central, union republic, krai and oblast Party organs, teachers for higher educational institutions and workers for scientific-research institutions. Three-year courses. Also offers a 9-month short course.

Marx-Engels-Lenin Institute

Formed in 1931 by the fusion of the earlier Institutes of Marx and Engels and of Lenin. It is a research body concerned with the study of theory, history and practice of Marxism.

Foreign Otdel?

References in the Soviet press in the early 1920's and by Igor Gouzenko in 1946 indicate the existence of an office in the CC Apparatus having something to do with the activities of Soviet Party members abroad. A scholar who has examined the problem has decided that if such an office does indeed exist, its function is probably confined to supporting personnel matters (keeping track of Party personnel abroad, managing their Party records, etc.) and that it may be a part of the Otdel of Party, Trade Union, and Komsomol Organs. He discounts the likelihood of its having much of a voice in the operations of the Soviet Foreign office.

Administration of Affairs

This office, not to be confused with the Administration Otdel, is the general chancellery of the Apparatus. Its present functions have not been defined, but it is known that in 1920 it had the following breakdown, which probably continues to this time:

- Chancellery
- Estimate-Finance Otdel
- Secret Otdel
- Directing Unit
- Economic Otdel
- Printing

The Administration of Affairs has been responsible for headquarters supplies (office supplies), living quarters, provisions, transportation of Party functionaries, etc. It is responsible for Party finances, and in this, is checked on by the Central Auditing Commission.

The Special Sector: an internal policing service

The Party of Lenin, who liked a system of "double and even of triple insurance," employs an astonishing number of checking and cross-checking devices to ensure personal loyalty and organizational efficiency. In addition to the investigative and control functions performed by the regular Party organization (functionaries performing their routine duties under the system of "democratic centralism;" the Commission of Party Control and the Kollegiya at lower levels; the chain of Departments for Party, Trade Union, and Komsomol Organs, with their investigative units and reports-analysis offices), there has existed since about 1928 a chain of "Special Sectors" within Party and Komsomol committees, down through the City Committee level. The Special Sector (has also been referred to as a Section—otdel) of the CC/CPSU is headed by A. H. Poskrebyshov, who is Stalin's personal secretary. The network is Stalin's own detective agency. It passes on all important appointments within the Party and State institutions. It checks up on the functioning of personnel and organs. It furnishes information to Stalin for his use in policy formulation. It has also been reported to be responsible for the bodyguards assigned to important Soviet leaders, thus giving Stalin a constant physical check on their activities.

The Special Sector maintains personnel records separate from those of other Party and Soviet offices. Its personnel are immune to arrest by the State security services and may arrest anyone except other Special Sector people. It has been reported that the Special Sector of the CC/CPSU prepares a summary of diplomatic and press reports from Soviet posts abroad and publishes them in Krasnyi Tass (Red Tass) for the benefit of Stalin and his lieutenants.

The Special Sector network works closely with the Secret Sections (or units or sectors) which are set up in many Soviet institutions to handle security classified materials under IVD supervision, but with indirect Party control.

20. Territorial Organs. The territorial breakdown of the CP follows the breakdown of the civil government. Lower Party organs are the following:

CC/Union Republic

Oblast Committee
(Obkom)

City Committee
(Gorkom) or Rural Raion Committee

City Raion Committee
(Raikom) or Rural Committee

Primary Party Organization

In the RSFSR, there is no separate CC, as in the other Union Republics. The CC/CPSU serves as the leading organ of the CP/RSFSR directly.

With the exception of the Ukraine, where the CC has both a Politburo and an Orgburo, the lower Party leading organs are: the Committee, the Bureau, and the Secretariat.

The Apparatus of a particular Union Republic CC consists of functional offices (Agitprop; and Party, Trade Union, and Komsomol Organs) and whatever "production" type offices are necessary to control the main industries in the Republic. For example, the Headquarters of the CP Belorussia has the following offices:

Secretariat

1st Secretary

2nd Secretary

three other secretaries

Propaganda and Agitation Section

Propaganda Sector

Agitation Sector

Section of Party, Trade Union, and Komsomol Organs

Agriculture Section

Machine Construction Section

Heavy Industry Section

Light Industry Section

Transport Section

Administration Section

Planning, Finance and Trade Section

Section for Work Among Women

Protocol Unit

Sector of Administration of Affairs of the CC

Party Archives of the CC

An Oblast Party organization has approximately the following components, depending upon local needs:

Bureau: includes the Secretaries and 4 other members, plus 3 candidates

Secretariat: 4-5 Secretaries

It has been noted that in some cases, at least, the members of the Bureau other than the Secretaries hold positions in lower Party and Key State organs (e.g., 1st Secretary of the City Committee of the Oblast capital, Chief of the MGB or MVD in the capital city, etc.) and that the candidate members of the Bureau also hold leading positions in the lower Party or state apparatus.

The City organization of the Party is similar to that of the Oblast.